

# **April 17, 2012 Bulletin 120 Update**

The April 17, 2012 Bulletin 120 Update has been completed and it is posted at <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iodir?s=b120up> . The forecast includes observed conditions through the morning of April 17, 2012.

The next Bulletin 120 forecast update for conditions on April 24, 2012 will be available on April 26, 2012.

## **Forecast Summary:**

Considering the rivers forecasted in the B120 update, the projected median April-July runoff in the major Sierra river basins ranges from 52 percent of normal on the Stanislaus River to 93 percent of normal on the Inflow to Shasta Lake. Since the April 10 forecast update, all rivers increased due to the storms throughout the state during the past week. On average, the forecasts increased about 11 percent since the last forecast.

## **Runoff:**

April unimpaired flows are above average for the Sacramento River above Bend Bridge, the Inflow into Shasta Lake, the American River, and the Cosumnes River. Except for the Tule River (96 percent of average), flows for the Mokelumne River and southward are less than 70 percent of normal. Overall the flows range between 45 percent of normal for the San Joaquin River and 134 percent of normal for the Sacramento at Bend Bridge.

## **Precipitation:**

During the first 18 days of April, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Index gained 4.6 inches of precipitation which is 118 percent of the April average. The seasonal total through April 18 is 37.8 inches which is 86 percent of average-to-date and 76 percent of an average water year.

During this same time period the San Joaquin 5-Station Index gained 3.5 inches which is 100 percent of the April average. The seasonal total is 22.7 inches, which is 64 percent of average-to-date and 56 percent of an average water year.

## **Snowpack:**

Regionally, the snow sensor data is indicating that the Northern Sierra, Central Sierra, and Southern Sierra snowpack are 101, 58, and 40 percent of their respective April 18 averages. For the morning of April 18, the statewide snowpack was 17 inches which is 65 percent of the average to date.

## **Weather and Climate Outlook:**

The CNRFC 6-day QPF and Freezing Level Forecast, issued this morning, shows a warm, dry outlook through early next week. Freezing elevations could top 13,000 feet over the weekend which will certainly have an impact on the snow pack.

The NWS Climate Prediction Center's (CPC) one-month outlook for May 2012 was updated on April 19. It calls for increased chances of above normal temperatures along the entire California-Nevada border including most of the Sierra Nevada. The same outlook shows equal chances of above or below normal precipitation for the entire state.

The three month (May, June, July) outlook was also updated on April 19. Similar to the 30-day outlook, the 90-day outlook calls for increased chances of above normal temperatures along the entire California-Nevada border including the Sierra Nevada. The same outlook calls for increased chances of below normal precipitation along the California-Oregon border including areas of the Klamath and Scott River basins and equal chances of above or below normal precipitation in all other areas of the state.

**Next Update:**

The next Bulletin 120 forecast update for conditions on April 24, 2012 will be available on April 26, 2012. As always, you may contact us anytime if you need assistance.

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To subscribe and un-subscribe to the B120 notification email  
<http://listhost2.water.ca.gov/mailman/listinfo/b120>.

**Water Supply Index (WSI) Email Subscription Information**

To subscribe and un-subscribe to the WSI notification email  
<http://listhost2.water.ca.gov/mailman/listinfo/WSI>

**Full Natural Flow Data:**

Daily FNF

[http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey\\_ro/FNF](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FNF)

Monthly FNF

[http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey\\_ro/FNFSUM](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FNFSUM)

Seasonal FNF

[http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey\\_ro/FLOWOUT](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FLOWOUT)

**Precipitation Data:**

Latest Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryDaily?s=8SI&d=today>

Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Tabulation

[http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/products/8-Stations\\_Tab.pdf](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/products/8-Stations_Tab.pdf)

Latest San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryDaily?s=5SI&d=today>

San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Tabulation

[http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/products/5-Stations\\_Tab.pdf](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/products/5-Stations_Tab.pdf)

WY Precipitation Summary

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/precip/PRECIPSUM>

**Snow Data:**

Latest Snow Sensor Report

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/PAGE6>

Latest Statewide Summary of Snow Water Equivalents

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/DLYSWEQ>

Monthly Snow Course Report

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/COURSES>

**Extended Regional Forecasts:**

California Nevada River Forecast Center 6 Day QPF and Snow Level Forecast

<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/awipsProducts/RNOHD6RSA.php>

Climate Prediction Center One-Month Outlook Forecasts

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

Climate Prediction Center Three-Month Outlook Forecasts

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/>

**Drought Information:**

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/seasonal\\_drought.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/seasonal_drought.html)